

305 Pioneer Road  
Soda Springs, Idaho 83276  
December 19, 2010

Mr. Jim Kempton, President  
Idaho Public Utilities Commission  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

RE: Comments on Case Number PAC-E-10-07

Dear Commissioner Kempton:

My name is Donald Wind. I am a resident of Bear Lake County and an employee of Monsanto Company for over 31 years. I am writing to express my opposition to Rocky Mountain Power's proposed rate increase.

I am greatly concerned about the potential impacts such a rate increase could have on not only my employer's ability to continue operations in the area, but also the impact on my residential power bill and the region's economy as a whole. Please consider the following facts when making your decision on this proposed rate increase:

1. The business landscape that Monsanto is operating under is quite different now that China is exporting massive amounts of phosphorus-based generic Roundup into Monsanto's major markets in North and South America. Two years ago, Monsanto's Roundup accounted for over 30 percent of the company's gross profit. In another year, Roundup will account for only 4 percent of Monsanto's gross profit. Anyone on Wall Street will tell you that the glory years of the Monsanto Roundup cash cow are over.
2. As I write this letter, Monsanto's Soda Springs plant is, as part of its compliance efforts with Idaho air rules, making a decision about whether to install a thermal oxidizer to eliminate high opacity emissions from furnace flares, or the alternative of shutting down production of furnaces in the future whenever the need for flaring arises. Either approach will cost the plant many millions of dollars of capital and/or expense.
3. EPA is currently working on imposing a so-called "maximum available control technology" rule for the control of certain pollutants from the Soda Springs plant stacks. This rule could force Monsanto to install capital improvements that could easily exceed the full amount of Rocky Mountain Power's proposed rate increase. A similar rule was promulgated recently for the cement industry, with the likelihood that many plants will shut down due to the capital and expense of compliance.

It is clear that Rocky Mountain Power's call for a double digit increase in the power rate charged Monsanto, coupled with the major economic hits briefly described above, is at such a dramatic level that it threatens the continued operation of Monsanto's Soda Springs plant. In this most severe economic downturn since the Great Depression, we have all had to make do with less. Rocky Mountain Power can, and should, get by with a substantially reduced rate proposal.

Additionally, I am tired of outside interests like Scottish Power and Warren Buffett deciding that they want excessive profit from their investments. I yearn for the old days when a more locally owned Utah Power treated Monsanto like a partner and with the respect accorded its biggest customer.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important issue.

Very truly yours,



Donald Wind, PG, REM

Mr. Jim Kempton, President

ID Public Utilities Commission

P.O. Box 83720

Boise, ID 83720-0074

Commissioner Kempton

RE: Case Number PAC-E-10-07

I am writing to you today to express my opposition to Rocky Mountain Power's proposed rate increase.

I am greatly concerned of the impacts the proposed rate increase will have both immediately and in the future for my family and for my employer. I am also concerned for the region as a whole due to the size and scope of the planned increase at all levels, for the impact it will have on existing business and the ability of the region to attract new business.

Reviewing the size of the raises that we have received (and in some cases the lack of them) from our employers coupled with the fact that for the last two years there have been no social security adjustments (due to a flat inflation rate) and the proposed federal employee rate freeze for the next two years. We do not feel that we can absorb these increases and that the increases themselves are out of line with the service being provided to Southeastern Idaho customers. This is partly due to the continued recession that the country is going through and I feel that this will be exacerbated by an increase to my employer and feel that this represents a double hit to me and my family, I do not see how our employers can absorb the increase in cost that is being requested of them and remain viable as a business let alone give the raises that would be needed to partially offset the increase that we, their employees will have in order to avert a major down shift in the standard of living throughout the region.

In Mr. Cupparo's testimony on page five lines 5 through 11 he states that the Gateway Transmission Expansion "will reduce operation cost to customers". After reading his testimony among others I suspect he is referring to customers both South and West of Idaho and that the main benefits of the gateway expansion is the ability to transport energy across Idaho from Wyoming to provide the high cost "green" energy from wind generation that their customers on the west coast have requested along with the ability to move low cost hydroelectric power from its generating sources within Idaho to high cost markets on the coast. In the last few years FMC in Pocatello closed down and while they are not a Rocky Mountain Power customer they did consume power produced in the "shared" grid which encompasses the low cost hydro electric power that attracted these large customers in the past and was a large part of the reason for their locating in Idaho to start with. A large plant like the FMC plant or the Monsanto plant in Soda Springs is said to use the energy equal to a large metropolitan city like Memphis. I have not seen expansion in the region that would

lead me to believe that the power formerly used by FMC is being consumed locally this leads me to believe that this portion of the power is being exported via the grid and that we are being asked to subsidize the energy requirements of the states that Rocky Mountain power services to the South and West of Idaho by paying for the transmission lines needed to transport the power to them not for transmission lines to bring power into Idaho.

For the reasons noted above I do not feel that we in Southeastern Idaho should be asked to pay for any of the Gateway Transmission project until it can be shown that the line is used to provide power into Idaho and then only as a prorated amount based on the value provided to both the utility and to the customers. I also question why we should be asked to pay for high cost variable "wind" generation when Rocky Mountain Power dismantled low cost hydro electric power below Grace a few years ago rather than reinvesting and maintaining the units that were there. The primary problem I see with wind generation is that when the wind does not blow you must have in place either a duplicate unit in an area that the wind is blowing or the capacity to bring generating capacity on line from either hydro, gas, coal or nuclear sources in effect doubling the cost needed for each wind mill turbine. This is a front loaded cost and has no adjustment for future maintenance of the turbine itself. Since Idaho has no preference in law or policy for the use of wind generated power and that Idaho's overall energy use appears to have declined over the last few years (drastically if you include the reduction to Idaho Powers interruptible supply to FMC). I do not agree that wind generation is a "low cost service with manageable and reasonable risk to customers" (as stated in Mr. Tallman's testimony on page three lines 4 and 5).

Rocky Mountain Power is seeking a return on equity of 10.6% this is substantially higher than any long term investment can currently show with most being down around 2%. If you should find that we should be charged for these services the rate they are seeking is out of line with the current economy.

Thank you for the chance to comment.

Sincerely,

Guy E. Noble Robbins



December

Mr. Jim Kempton, President  
ID Public Utilities Commission  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

RECEIVED  
2010 DEC 22 AM 8:24  
IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Dear Commissioner Kempton:

RE: Case Number PAC-E-10-07

My name is Ken Seelos. I am a Monsanto employee. I have been employed with Monsanto in Soda Springs, Idaho for over 34 years. I have lived in Soda Springs for 35 years. I have a wife and 9 year old child. My wife and I also own a business in Soda Springs called Hair Cuts Etc. I am writing/testifying before you today to express my opposition to Rocky Mountain Power's proposed rate increase.

I am greatly concerned of the potential impacts such a rate increase could have on not only my employer's ability to continue operations in the area, but also the impacts to other rate payers and South Eastern Idaho's economy as a whole. In the case of Monsanto, the company has been an integral part of SE Idaho for nearly sixty years.

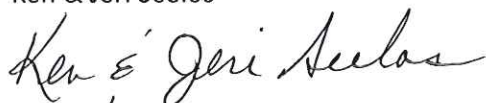
- An affordable electrical rate will allow Monsanto to maintain a leading role in the economy of Southeast Idaho.
  - Employ 770 people, 375 of whom work directly for Monsanto and 395 of whom work for contractors. 94% of these people live in four southeast Idaho counties.
  - \$70 million annually in payroll and benefits adding to Caribou County being the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest in wages paid in Idaho.
  - Among the top employers in comprehensive benefits, vacations, holidays, incentive payouts, pension plan and 401k matched savings plans.
  - Offer high paying jobs that are roughly three times higher than the local average.
  - Serving as the largest contributor of an industry that supplies 52% of the local school tax base
- Through the use of an economic multiplier to consider the indirect economic effects this has on Idaho's economy, Monsanto's phosphorus business produces, at a minimum, a \$230 million economic impact in the state.
- Our schools and public services that are provided could not be maintained without the jobs and tax base provided by Monsanto and other manufacturing industries.

Rocky Mountain Power's call for a double digit increase, however, is at such a dramatic level that it threatens the viability of all manufacturers, not only Monsanto. If approved, it will have a rippling effect throughout Southeast Idaho that we may never be able to recover from. I'm certain the impact on my Hair Cutting shop would be devastating. In this most severe economic downturn since the Great Depression, we have all had to make do with less. Rocky Mountain Power can, and should, get by with a substantially reduced rate proposal.

Thank you for the chance to comment.

Sincerely,

Ken & Jeri Seelos





Monisanto Employee and local business owner

110 East Fourth South

Soda Springs, Idaho 83276

To :  
Idaho Public Utilities Commission

Att: Jean Jewell

From:  
Steve Cann  
208-852-3120

Cover sheet plus 2

IPUC

Re: Rocky Mountain Power rate hike

Dear Sir,

My concerns are:

1. Since August of 2008 our small dairy has only managed to feed the cows and pay the things that are necessary to survive. "She who must be Obeyed" and myself try not to need to go to the Doctor, dentist or have to pay to have our 10 year old vehicles fixed. We eat old cow hamburger.

2. One of the board members asked the little Ransbottom Lady "if her folks had applied for heat assistance yet?" Just a thought:: Many of us want to survive on our own. Remember our parents telling us "to use it up or wear it out"? (we have to do this now) For everyone that takes Heat assistance or help from the Bishop, there are 1 or 2 that would rather huddle by the gas heater. Do not fault them for trying to be responsible.

3. When you were here in town did you happen to notice just how many homes were decorated for Christmas? I have noticed blocks with no outside lights, friends who usually put up lights have none or maybe just a few that are on for a couple of hours. We have even had to restrain our lights because we will need to cut something else to not to raise our bill this month.

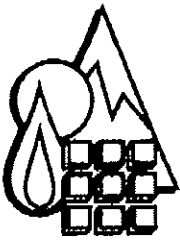
4. What will the economic impact be to our area? Dr Taylor stated an additional \$25,000, west side schools an additional \$14,000, then there is the library, county, city offices etc....guess what will happen to our taxes? If every dollar is spent 3 to 7 times will be taken out of Franklin Co's disposable income for an increase to RM Power. Jobs, Wages will be cut, cost for basic needs will be raised.

5. Ireland Bank sent out letters stating that the new interest rates for pass book accounts - our meager account, will yield .15% or about \$15.00 per thousand dollars. Where is a return for us, we don't see it in the dairy or in any money we have saved.

6. Our experience with the IPUC has been mixed. The first time was when Idaho Power sold to Scottish. There was much opposition but in the end sale went forth anyway. Secondly, the power at my barn was unreliable 14 outages in 8 months. Your people in Boise help to rectify my problem, causing time and dollars to be spent on repairs to the lines and poles from Smithfield, Ut to Fairview, Idaho. Now when the wind blows there are few drops in current.

To summarize there aren't enough dollars in our local economy to sustain this type of increase. Possibly the IPUC in its wisdom might suggest to RM Power to drop their rates, tighten their belts and help its customers in this time of economic instability.





IDAHO  
PUBLIC UTILITIES  
COMMISSION

Public Hearing

PAC-E-10-07

Preston, Idaho

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

If you cannot or do not want to testify in person at this hearing but want your opinion noted, please use the space below to write your comments. Add extra sheets as needed. You may either hand this sheet to a commission staff member or mail it to:

IPUC, PO Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0074.

You may also post comments on our Web Site.

<http://www.puc.idaho.gov>

Click "comments & questions."

As dairy farmers, we are looking at another loss this year. It is not only a loss of equity, but we have missed payments, have broke down equipment, bought no new or newer equipment, just patched up what we have, we haven't bought new animals or fixed on our property. So we not only have lost equity, but value of equipment & property. We have bought only the ~~least~~ <sup>least</sup> amount of money home. We've forgone vacations doctor visit, car repairs, household upkeep, we've only ~~eat~~ <sup>eat</sup> heater out once in three months. I run my dryer only once each day - I use a clothes rack for the other load. Where do you suppose I can get any money for a rate hike? Don't be like Shaw

Print Name Renee Cunn Sign Name Renee Cunn

Mailing Address 1644 S State Phone Number 208-552-3120

City and State Preston, Idaho Zip Code 83263

That breaks this animals back.

IDAHO  
PUBLIC UTILITIES  
COMMISSION

Public Hearing

PAC-E-10-07

Rexburg, Idaho

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2010 DEC 20 PM 1:41

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## WHAT DO YOU THINK?

If you cannot or do not want to testify in person at this hearing but want your opinion noted, please use the space below to write your comments. Add extra sheets as needed. You may either hand this sheet to a commission staff member or mail it to:

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<http://www.puc.idaho.gov>

Click "comments & questions."

My power bill is about \$12,000/month.  
an 18% increase will cost me about \$2,160  
per month. I employ about 40 people and  
this increase is really going to hurt. We  
have been forced to lay people off and we  
currently cannot pay our obligations-  
\$2,160/month is \$25,920/year.  
I hope something different can be  
worked out. I give my bigger customers  
a discount. Why make Businesses pay more?  
Plastic Industries, Inc.

Preston, Idaho 83263

Print Name Rex Pitcher Sign Name [Signature]  
President & owner  
Mailing Address 303 So. State Phone Number 208-852-5600  
City and State Preston, Id. Zip Code 83263

**Idaho Public Utilities**

**PO Box 83720**

**Boise, ID 83720-0074**

[www.puc.idaho.gov](http://www.puc.idaho.gov) ... click comments & questions

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2010 DEC 20 PM 2:36

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UTILITIES COMMISSION

**December 15, 2010**

**7:00 p.m.**

**Robinson Building, Preston, Idaho**

If you want your opinion noted in the record, please use the space below to write your comments. Add extra sheets as needed. You may either hand this sheet to a staff member at the meeting or mail it to the above address.

**Rocky Mountain Proposed Rate Increases are:**

Standard Residential Service	8.0%
Time of Use Residential	15.6%
Small General Service	10.8%
Medium and Large General Service	14.6%
Irrigation	9.6%
Large Industrial	15.9% to 19.6%

Being a Senior citizen my income is not increasing but I still have a home to maintain and it is hard to pay all our bills. We need some help somewhere. If Rocky Mountain can't afford to pay their bills, how can we afford to pay our bills without an increase in pay? Please consider the extra cost to Senior citizens and unemployed people.

*Sterling Bingham*





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COMMISSION

Public Hearing

PAC-E-10-07

Shelley, Idaho

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DEC 20 AM 8:41

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

If you cannot or do not want to testify in person at this hearing but want your opinion noted, please use the space below to write your comments. Add extra sheets as needed. You may either hand this sheet to a commission staff member or mail it to:

IPUC, PO Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0074.

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<http://www.puc.idaho.gov>

Click "comments & questions."

I am retired and physically disabled, receiving \$633.00 per month. I would like you to look at a copy of my monthly Pacific Corp - RMP, or Utah Power bills since I bought my home in Idaho.

You will note that during "The Holidays" Before and after I am paying up to 75% of my SS. check to the Power Co. I have learned to board good spring thru fall to keep heat in mid winter and save a little to buy a few gifts for sons & grandsons; but IT is becoming harder each year. I never raise the

Print Name Cassandra Spain Sign Name Cassandra Spain  
Mailing Address 130 Hummingbird Phone Number (208) - 932-0227  
City and State Shelley, Idaho Zip Code 83274

daytime heat alone  $65^{\circ}$ , and it is set below  $55^{\circ}$  at night. I spend most of my time with Rice bags (heated in microwave) in various areas of my anatomy. The heart trouble I have caused me to have poor circulation which is greatly deteriorated in cold weather.

I cannot afford another rate increase. I cannot continue to pay Roughly \$ 400.00 per month to freeze.

We in my area of Shelby are denied the opportunity to heat with Natural Gas, so we are captive fools trying to keep warm with electric heat!

I wanted to put a natural gas furnace in in 2008 - NO can do - no natural gas in my vicinity!

What hope do I have if Pacific Corp raises rates again.  
Greed will be the downfall of

Our Great Nation. Cassandra Spain



2010	\$395.87	\$346.15	\$230.08	\$185.26	\$167.31	\$85.88	\$79.64	\$70.92	\$78.56	\$144.59	\$328.18	\$427.55
2009	\$362.09	\$362.09	\$178.81	\$227.69	\$145.50	\$97.28	\$53.51	\$59.78	\$66.44	\$146.51	\$309.11	\$392.35
2008	\$364.38	\$285.35	\$218.32	\$197.12	\$91.87	\$71.42	\$68.30	\$54.19	\$70.10	\$159.83	\$197.84	\$392.35
2007	\$231.82	\$209.73	\$228.80	\$140.67	\$109.43	\$54.85	\$65.26	\$68.47	\$64.36	\$65.44	\$138.08	\$243.36
2006	\$234.97	\$172.22	\$177.80	\$174.34	\$100.88	\$45.94	\$48.38	\$50.40	\$48.80	\$67.43	\$91.93	\$176.79
2005	\$171.56			\$123.23	\$89.28	\$63.51	\$45.28	\$42.28	\$44.94		\$76.56	\$120.45
2004		\$49.81	\$65.08	\$65.60	\$53.16	\$55.92	\$43.96	\$38.73	\$46.56	\$65.26	\$115.28	

#1- Note rise in heat cost w/ rate increase (not \$1.00 per month, more like \$2.00 per day!).

#2 old inefficient furnace died - New "energy efficient" York furnace installed - note higher cost of heating w/ energy efficient furnace.

We cannot win.

PS - When as in Post Register was not just a joke, but an outright LIE!  
 Candace Aspen





IDAHO  
PUBLIC UTILITIES  
COMMISSION

Public Hearing

PAC-E-10-07

Grace, Idaho

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

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IPUC, PO Box 83720, Boise, ID 83720-0074.

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Click "comments & questions."

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DEC 20 AM 8:36

Sir:

I am part time employed. I do not have the income to support a 14% increase on my power bill. With the ~~new~~ property tax to cover a \$200,000 school levy and an increase of water assessments due to the City of Grace and the water improvement. With the unemployment at 6.9% across the Nation, the loss of jobs, and industry in this country it is not a good thing to take a 14% increase. Idaho has taken care of itself.

Print Name LOY RAYE PHILLIPS Sign Name Loy Raye Phillips  
Mailing Address P.O. Box 101 Phone Number 208-251-8153  
City and State Grace, ID Zip Code 83241-0101

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2010 DEC 20 AM 8:36

Other states should look at the available resources and go to work to provide the necessary power.

As a resident on a fixed income the rate increase would affect my ability to pay.

Industry would have to increase the price of their product thus causing a domino effect all down the line.

Small business would have to increase prices thus making it more difficult to sell or provide services.

Agriculture would suffer because of the prices they receive for grain, hay, potatoes and milk.

I am grateful for the power that we use here and the convenience it offers us, but I disagree on the rate increase for residential, industry and agriculture.

Thank you

Will anyone listen or even care?



Mr. Jim Kempton, President

ID Public Utilities Commission

P.O. Box 83720

Boise, ID 83720-0074

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2010 DEC 20 AM 8:34

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UTILITIES COMMISSION

Commissioner Kempton

RE: Case Number PAC-E-10-07

I am writing to you today to express my opposition to Rocky Mountain Power's proposed rate increase.

I am greatly concerned of the impacts the proposed rate increase will have both immediately and in the future for my family and for my employer. I am also concerned for the region as a whole due to the size and scope of the planned increase at all levels, for the impact it will have on existing business and the ability of the region to attract new business.

Reviewing the size of the raises that we have received (and in some cases the lack of them) from our employers coupled with the fact that for the last two years there have been no social security adjustments (due to a flat inflation rate) and the proposed federal employee rate freeze for the next two years. We do not feel that we can absorb these increases and that the increases themselves are out of line with the service being provided to Southeastern Idaho customers. This is partly due to the continued recession that the country is going through and I feel that this will be exacerbated by an increase to my employer and feel that this represents a double hit to me and my family, I do not see how our employers can absorb the increase in cost that is being requested of them and remain viable as a business let alone give the raises that would be needed to partially offset the increase that we, their employees will have in order to avert a major down shift in the standard of living throughout the region.

In Mr. Cupparo's testimony on page five lines 5 through 11 he states that the Gateway Transmission Expansion "will reduce operation cost to customers". After reading his testimony among others I suspect he is referring to customers both South and West of Idaho and that the main benefits of the gateway expansion is the ability to transport energy across Idaho from Wyoming to provide the high cost "green" energy from wind generation that their customers on the west coast have requested along with the ability to move low cost hydroelectric power from its generating sources within Idaho to high cost markets on the coast. In the last few years FMC in Pocatello closed down and while they are not a Rocky Mountain Power customer they did consume power produced in the "shared" grid which encompasses the low cost hydro electric power that attracted these large customers in the past and was a large part of the reason for their locating in Idaho to start with. A large plant like the FMC plant or the Monsanto plant in Soda Springs is said to use the energy equal to a large metropolitan city like Memphis. I have not seen expansion in the region that would



lead me to believe that the power formerly used by FMC is being consumed locally this leads me to believe that this portion of the power is being exported via the grid and that we are being asked to subsidize the energy requirements of the states that Rocky Mountain power services to the South and West of Idaho by paying for the transmission lines needed to transport the power to them not for transmission lines to bring power into Idaho.

For the reasons noted above I do not feel that we in Southeastern Idaho should be asked to pay for any of the Gateway Transmission project until it can be shown that the line is used to provide power into Idaho and then only as a prorated amount based on the value provided to both the utility and to the customers. I also question why we should be asked to pay for high cost variable "wind" generation when Rocky Mountain Power dismantled low cost hydro electric power below Grace a few years ago rather than reinvesting and maintaining the units that were there. The primary problem I see with wind generation is that when the wind does not blow you must have in place either a duplicate unit in an area that the wind is blowing or the capacity to bring generating capacity on line from either hydro, gas, coal or nuclear sources in effect doubling the cost needed for each wind mill turbine. This is a front loaded cost and has no adjustment for future maintenance of the turbine itself. Since Idaho has no preference in law or policy for the use of wind generated power and that Idaho's overall energy use appears to have declined over the last few years (drastically if you include the reduction to Idaho Powers interruptible supply to FMC). I do not agree that wind generation is a "low cost service with manageable and reasonable risk to customers" (as stated in Mr. Tallman's testimony on page three lines 4 and 5).

Rocky Mountain Power is seeking a return on equity of 10.6% this is substantially higher than any long term investment can currently show with most being down around 2%. If you should find that we should be charged for these services the rate they are seeking is out of line with the current economy.

Thank you for the chance to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mark A. Cooper".

Levi Owens  
40N 4<sup>th</sup> East  
Soda Springs, ID 83276  
Phone: 208-589-7633

December 15, 2010

RECEIVED  
2010 DEC 20 AM 8:33  
IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

RE: Case Number PAC-E-10-07

Mr. Jim Kempton, President  
ID Public Utilities Commission  
PO Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

Dear Commissioner Kempton,

My Name is Levi Owens; I work in Soda Springs, ID, for Mark III Plant Construction Ltd, we are an "in house" contractor for Monsanto. I am writing to you today to express my opposition to Rocky Mountain Power's proposed rate increase.

I am greatly concerned of the potential impact such a rate increase could have on our employer's ability to continue operations in the area, as well as, the impact to other rate payers and the region's economy as a whole. As employees of Monsanto and residents of Soda Springs this rate increase would be a double hit to our family. As with us there are many people in the same situation. A rate increase in these economic times is something that should not be asked of the people of Southeastern Idaho. We are already struggling to survive. We have Idahoans without jobs living day by day and the ones working are living paycheck to paycheck now we are asked to pay a higher rate on our power?

In the case of Monsanto, the company has been an integral part of SE Idaho for nearly sixty years. To ask them to pay the rate increase that they are being asked to pay is well.....frankly Sir, Ridicules! It's like asking Monsanto to close their doors and put 700+ employees on unemployment. This will only add to the ever increasing unemployment issues Idahoans face daily.

An affordable electrical rate will allow Monsanto to maintain a leading role in the economy of Southeast Idaho. Through the use of an economic multiplier consider the indirect economic effects this has on Idaho's economy, Monsanto's phosphorus business produces, at a minimum, a \$230 million economic impact in the state. Our schools and public services that are provided could not be maintained without the jobs and tax base provided by Monsanto and other manufacturing industries. Monsanto serves as the largest contributor of an industry that supplies 52% of the local school tax base.

Rocky Mountain Power's call for a double digit increase, however, is at such a dramatic level that it threatens the viability of all manufacturers, not only Monsanto. If approved, it will have a ripping effect throughout Southeast Idaho that we may never be able to recover from. In this most severe economic downturn we have all had to make due with less. The President himself has put a freeze on pay increases for some of the American people and yet Rocky Mountain comes to us asking for double digit increases! Rocky Mountain Power can, and should, get by with a substantially reduced rate proposal. Double digit increases can not be tolerated at a time when our economy is failing.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment,

Sincerely,



Levi Owens

December 16, 2010

Mr. Jim Kempton, President  
ID Public Utilities Commission  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

RECEIVED  
2010 DEC 20 AM 8:33  
IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Dear Commissioner Kempton:

RE: Case Number PAC-E-10-07

My name is Meghan Jurgen. I am an employee of Monsanto in Soda Springs. My husband works for Agrium in Soda Springs. I am writing today to express my opposition to Rocky Mountain Power's proposed rate increase.

I am greatly concerned of the potential impacts such a rate increase could have on my employer's ability to continue operations in the area as well as other employers in the area. My family's future depends greatly on the ability for these companies to remain open.

Over the last two years, our company has made great strides to reduce spending to remain a viable, global competitor, and the site in Soda Springs has responded accordingly. While we continue to focus on those items we can control, I am concerned that our operating costs will rise so dramatically with the proposed rate increase, that the company would have no choice but to sell or shut down operations in Soda Springs.

It's probably no news to you that Monsanto is a huge part of the livelihood of many in Southeast Idaho. With small businesses struggling to make it in Soda Springs, the thought of Monsanto shutting down would likely mean the failure of these smaller businesses, as well.

Please consider the impact to the lives of the people who live in this and the surrounding communities as you move forward with your decision.

Thank you for the chance to comment.

Sincerely,



Meghan Jurgen

546 E. Teresa Dr.

Inkom, ID 83245



Robert Comish  
1227 Comish Road  
Grace, ID 83241

December 14, 2010

Mr. Jim Kempton, President  
ID Public Utilities Commission  
PO Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

RECEIVED  
2010 DEC 20 AM 8:32  
IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

RE: Case Number PAC-E-10-07

Dear Commissioner Kempton,

My Name is Robert Comish; I work in Soda Springs, Idaho, for Mark III Plant Construction Ltd, we are an "in house" contractor for Monsanto. I live in Grace, Idaho which is one of the cities that will be affected by this rate increase, which means, I will be hit twice as an employee and a residential rate payer. Therefore, I am writing to you today to express my opposition to Rocky Mountain Power's proposed rate increase.

I am greatly concerned of the potential impact such a rate increase could have on our employer's ability to continue operations in the area, as well as, the impact to other rate payers and the region's economy as a whole. As employees of Monsanto and residents of Soda Springs this rate increase would be a double hit to our family. As with us there are many people in the same situation. A rate increase in these economic times is something that should not be asked of the people of Southeastern Idaho. We are already struggling to survive. We have Idahoans without jobs living day by day and the ones working are living paycheck to paycheck now we are asked to pay a higher rate on our power?

In the case of Monsanto, the company has been an integral part of SE Idaho for nearly sixty years. To ask them to pay the rate increase that they are being asked to pay is something that needs to be reconsidered. You are asking Monsanto to close their doors and put over 700 employees on unemployment. This will only add to the ever increasing unemployment issues Idahoans now face.

An affordable electrical rate will allow Monsanto to maintain a leading role in the economy of Southeast Idaho. Through the use of an economic multiplier consider the indirect economic effects this has on Idaho's economy, Monsanto's phosphorus business produces, at a minimum, a \$230 million economic impact in the state. With China as the competitors in phosphorus Monsanto cannot compete paying prices such as this for power. Our schools and public services that are provided cannot be maintained without the jobs and tax base provided by Monsanto and other manufacturing industries. Monsanto serves as the largest contributor of an industry that supplies 52% of the local school tax base.

Rocky Mountain Power's call for a double digit increase is at such a dramatic level that it threatens the viability of all manufacturers, not only Monsanto. If approved, it will have a ripping effect throughout Southeast Idaho that we may never be able to recover from. In this most severe economic downturn we have all had to make due with less. Rocky Mountain Power can, and should, get by with a substantially reduced rate proposal. Double digit increases cannot be tolerated at a time when our economy is failing.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment,

Sincerely,



Robert Comish



Jodi Apel  
30 South 2<sup>nd</sup> East #7  
Soda Springs, ID 83276  
Phone: 2008-241-1714

December 13, 2010

Mr. Jim Kempton, President  
ID Public Utilities Commission  
PO Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

RECEIVED  
2010 DEC 20 AM 8:32

IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

RE: Case Number PAC-E-10-07

Dear Commissioner Kempton,

My Name is Jodi Apel; I work in Soda Springs, ID, for Mark III Plant Construction Ltd, we are an "in house" contractor for Monsanto. My husband is a Monsanto employee where he has been employed for the last 8 years. I am writing to you today to express my opposition to Rocky Mountain Power's proposed rate increase.

I am greatly concerned of the potential impact such a rate increase could have on our employer's ability to continue operations in the area, as well as, the impact to other rate payers and the region's economy as a whole. As employees of Monsanto and residents of Soda Springs this rate increase would be a double hit to our family. As with us there are many people in the same situation. A rate increase in these economic times is something that should not be asked of the people of Southeastern Idaho. We are already struggling to survive. We have Idahoans without jobs living day by day and the ones working are living paycheck to paycheck now we are asked to pay a higher rate on our power?

In the case of Monsanto, the company has been an integral part of SE Idaho for nearly sixty years. To ask them to pay the rate increase that they are being asked to pay is well.....frankly Sir, Ridicules! It's like asking Monsanto to close their doors and put 700+ employees on unemployment. This will only add to the ever increasing unemployment issues Idahoans face daily.

An affordable electrical rate will allow Monsanto to maintain a leading role in the economy of Southeast Idaho. Through the use of an economic multiplier consider the indirect economic effects this has on Idaho's economy, Monsanto's phosphorus business produces, at a minimum, a \$230 million economic impact in the state. Our schools and public services that are provided could not be maintained without the jobs and tax base provided by Monsanto and other manufacturing industries. Monsanto serves as the largest contributor of an industry that supplies 52% of the local school tax base.

Rocky Mountain Power's call for a double digit increase, however, is at such a dramatic level that it threatens the viability of all manufacturers, not only Monsanto. If approved, it will have a ripping effect throughout Southeast Idaho that we may never be able to recover from. In this most severe economic downturn we have all had to make due with less. The President himself has put a freeze on pay increases for some of the American people and yet Rocky Mountain comes to us asking for double digit increases! Rocky Mountain Power can, and should, get by with a substantially reduced rate proposal. Double digit increases can not be tolerated at a time when our economy is failing.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment,

Sincerely,



Jodi Apel

December 16, 2010

Mr. Jim Kempton President  
ID Public Utilities Commission  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

RECEIVED  
2010 DEC 20 AM 8:31  
IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Ref: Case Number PAC-E-10-07

Dear Commissioner Kempton:

My name is Farrell Beins. I am the Area Manager for Mark III Plant Construction. Mark III is based in Sealy, Texas. They also have an office in Soda Springs, ID. The Idaho operation has a contract with Monsanto in Soda Springs and has had for the past thirty five plus years supplying manpower to supplement the Monsanto work force. Under normal operating conditions we maintain a work force of around 60 people spiking at times to one hundred plus. The majority of this manpower comes from the southeast Idaho area.

Being somewhat aware of the amount of power that Monsanto uses in order to operate their facility causes me and Mark III to be quite concerned with the sizable rate increase Rocky Mountain Power is asking for in this area. Such an increase would have substantial impact in Monsanto's ability to operate profitably thus possibly causing the loss of the contract Mark III has with them.

Monsanto employment directly impacts some 375 people plus approximately another 400 contract employees. The economic impact that the loss of Monsanto would have in the state of Idaho would be quite substantial.

Rocky Mountain Power's proposed double digit increase would not only affect Monsanto and Mark III Plant Construction but also threatens the viability of all manufacturing, businesses, hospitals, schools and homes in southeast Idaho.

As you know there are few new businesses in southeast Idaho. Very few are expanding. Very few are hiring. Most businesses and people are just trying to get by and maintain during this time when the economy is doing so poorly.

You are well aware of the unemployment rate in Idaho. I feel this utility rate increase has the potential to worsen that dramatically. If businesses cannot operate profitably and people cannot work they certainly cannot pay their power bills. Where is the gain?

As a business manager and employer I am opposed to the rate increase at this time.

I am also a life long resident of Franklin County. My wife and daughter are employed at the Franklin County Medical Center. I have grand children in the Preston Schools. Both



the hospital and the schools are struggling financially at this time as you are well aware also and neither one needs an increase in utility rates at this time. As a home owner and tax payer I am also opposed to the rate increase.

I thank you for the opportunity to comment and trust in the commission to make the right decision for the residents and businesses of southeast Idaho.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Farrell Beins". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Farrell Beins

# CITY OF GRACE

Mayor~Charles Titcomb

Council Members~

Eldon Peck

Kim Christensen

Curtis Thomas

Lucetta Holt

Superintendent~Wayne Bredehoft

City Clerk~Wendy Anderson

Deputy City Clerk~Janiece Painter



RECEIVED  
2010 DEC 20 AM 8:29  
IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

December 15, 2010

Mr. Jim Kempton, President

ID Public Utilities Commission

P.O. Box 83720

Boise, ID 83720-0074

RE: Case Number PAC-E-10-07

Dear Commissioner Kempton:

We represent the City of Grace as the Grace City Council. We are writing to express our opposition to Rocky Mountain Power's proposed rate increase.

We are greatly concerned of the potential impacts such a rate increase could have on the City of Grace and our ability to budget for such an increase in our power costs. As you well know electricity is very costly for a city to operate water, wastewater treatment facilities, and street lighting. We can only cut costs in these areas so far and then we are at the mercy of the power company. With the current state of the economy we are really struggling as a community to try and keep our costs manageable. The increase that is being proposed will be a great burden for our city and our citizens many of which are elderly and on fixed incomes.

We rely on the local industrial plants in our area like Agrium, Degerstrom, and Monsanto for the support of our citizens and our community. We know the intended increase Rocky Mountain Power is proposing is going to be a burden on these companies and an affordable electrical rate will allow these companies to maintain leading roles in the economy of Southeast Idaho. These companies are essential to our small communities with the tax base they provide and the people they employ that live in our communities. The money these companies and their employees bring into our city is essential for the continued support of our local businesses and our city as a whole.

We have all had to make do with less in this present economy and we feel Rocky Mountain Power can, and should, get by with a substantially reduced rate proposal.

Thank you for the chance to comment.

Sincerely,

  
Eldon Peck  
Council President  
230 S 7<sup>th</sup> E  
Grace, ID 83241

  
Lucetta Holt  
Councilmember  
760 E 2<sup>nd</sup> S  
Grace, ID 83241

  
Kim Christensen  
Councilmember  
20 Merrill Way  
Grace, ID 83241



Curtis Thomas  
Councilmember  
224 S 6<sup>th</sup> E  
Grace, ID 83241



Ray Rindlisbacher  
1568 South 2400 West  
Weston, ID 83286

December 13, 2010

Mr. Jim Kempton, President  
ID Public Utilities Commission  
PO Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

RECEIVED  
2010 DEC 20 AM 8:28  
IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

RE: Case Number PAC-E-10-07

Dear Commissioner Kempton,

My Name is Ray Rindlisbacher; I work in Soda Springs, Idaho, for Mark III Plant Construction Ltd, we are an "in house" contractor for Monsanto. I live in Weston, Idaho which is one of the cities that will be effected by this rate increase, which means, I will be hit twice as an employee and a residential rate payer. Therefore, I am writing to you today to express my opposition to Rocky Mountain Power's proposed rate increase.

I am greatly concerned of the potential impact such a rate increase could have on our employer's ability to continue operations in the area, as well as, the impact to other rate payers and the region's economy as a whole. As employees of Monsanto and residents of Soda Springs this rate increase would be a double hit to our family. As with us there are many people in the same situation. A rate increase in these economic times is something that should not be asked of the people of Southeastern Idaho. We are already struggling to survive. We have Idahoans without jobs living day by day and the ones working are living paycheck to paycheck now we are asked to pay a higher rate on our power?

In the case of Monsanto, the company has been an integral part of SE Idaho for nearly sixty years. To ask them to pay the rate increase that they are being asked to pay is something that needs to be reconsidered. You are asking Monsanto to close their doors and put over 700 employees on unemployment. This will only add to the ever increasing unemployment issues Idahoans now face.

An affordable electrical rate will allow Monsanto to maintain a leading role in the economy of Southeast Idaho. Through the use of an economic multiplier consider the indirect economic effects this has on Idaho's economy, Monsanto's phosphorus business produces, at a minimum, a \$230 million economic impact in the state. With China as the competitors in phosphorus Monsanto cannot compete paying prices such as this for power. Our schools and public services that are provided cannot be maintained without the jobs and tax base provided by Monsanto and other manufacturing industries. Monsanto serves as the largest contributor of an industry that supplies 52% of the local school tax base.

Rocky Mountain Power's call for a double digit increase is at such a dramatic level that it threatens the viability of all manufacturers, not only Monsanto. If approved, it will have a ripping effect throughout Southeast Idaho that we may never be able to recover from. In this most severe economic downturn we have all had to make due with less. Rocky Mountain Power can, and should, get by with a substantially reduced rate proposal. Double digit increases cannot be tolerated at a time when our economy is failing.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment,

Sincerely,



Ray Rindlisbacher



Mr. Jim Kempton, President  
ID Public Utilities Commission  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

RECEIVED  
2010 DEC 20 AM 8:57  
IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Commissioner Kempton

RE: Case Number PAC-E-10-07

I am writing to you today to express my opposition to Rocky Mountain Power's proposed rate increase.

I am greatly concerned of the impacts the proposed rate increase will have both immediately and in the future for my family and for my employer. I am also concerned for the region as a whole due to the size and scope of the planned increase at all levels, for the impact it will have on existing business and the ability of the region to attract new business.

Reviewing the size of the raises that we have received (and in some cases the lack of them) from our employers coupled with the fact that for the last two years there have been no social security adjustments (due to a flat inflation rate) and the proposed federal employee rate freeze for the next two years. We do not feel that we can absorb these increases and that the increases themselves are out of line with the service being provided to Southeastern Idaho customers. This is partly due to the continued recession that the country is going through and I feel that this will be exacerbated by an increase to my employer and feel that this represents a double hit to me and my family, I do not see how our employers can absorb the increase in cost that is being requested of them and remain viable as a business let alone give the raises that would be needed to partially offset the increase that we, their employees will have in order to avert a major down shift in the standard of living throughout the region.

In Mr. Cupparo's testimony on page five lines 5 through 11 he states that the Gateway Transmission Expansion "will reduce operation cost to customers". After reading his testimony among others I suspect he is referring to customers both South and West of Idaho and that the main benefits of the gateway expansion is the ability to transport energy across Idaho from Wyoming to provide the high cost "green" energy from wind generation that their customers on the west coast have requested along with the ability to move low cost hydroelectric power from its generating sources within Idaho to high cost markets on the coast. In the last few years FMC in Pocatello closed down and while they are not a Rocky Mountain Power customer they did consume power produced in the "shared" grid which encompasses the low cost hydro electric power that attracted these large customers in the past and was a large part of the reason for their locating in Idaho to start with. A large plant like the FMC plant or the Monsanto plant in Soda Springs is said to use the energy equal to a large metropolitan city like Memphis. I have not seen expansion in the region that would

lead me to believe that the power formerly used by FMC is being consumed locally this leads me to believe that this portion of the power is being exported via the grid and that we are being asked to subsidize the energy requirements of the states that Rocky Mountain power services to the South and West of Idaho by paying for the transmission lines needed to transport the power to them not for transmission lines to bring power into Idaho.

For the reasons noted above I do not feel that we in Southeastern Idaho should be asked to pay for any of the Gateway Transmission project until it can be shown that the line is used to provide power into Idaho and then only as a prorated amount based on the value provided to both the utility and to the customers. I also question why we should be asked to pay for high cost variable "wind" generation when Rocky Mountain Power dismantled low cost hydro electric power below Grace a few years ago rather than reinvesting and maintaining the units that were there. The primary problem I see with wind generation is that when the wind does not blow you must have in place either a duplicate unit in an area that the wind is blowing or the capacity to bring generating capacity on line from either hydro, gas, coal or nuclear sources in effect doubling the cost needed for each wind mill turbine. This is a front loaded cost and has no adjustment for future maintenance of the turbine itself. Since Idaho has no preference in law or policy for the use of wind generated power and that Idaho's overall energy use appears to have declined over the last few years (drastically if you include the reduction to Idaho Powers interruptible supply to FMC), I do not agree that wind generation is a "low cost service with manageable and reasonable risk to customers" (as stated in Mr. Tallman's testimony on page three lines 4 and 5).

Rocky Mountain Power is seeking a return on equity of 10.6% this is substantially higher than any long term investment can currently show with most being down around 2%. If you should find that we should be charged for these services the rate they are seeking is out of line with the current economy.

Thank you for the chance to comment.

Sincerely,

David Schwartz  
Anna Schwartz



December 16, 2010

Mr. Jim Kempton, President  
ID Public Utilities Commission  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

RECEIVED  
2010 DEC 20 AM 8:51  
IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Dear Commissioner Kempton:

RE: Case Number PAC-E-10-07

My name is Keven Nield. I am writing to you today to express my opposition to Rocky Mountain Power's proposed rate increase.

I am greatly concerned of the potential impacts such a rate increase could have on not only my employer's ability to continue operations in the area, but also the impacts to other rate payers and the region's economy as a whole. In the case of Monsanto, the company has been an integral part of SE Idaho for nearly sixty years.

*It is time we consider all of the industry we have lost in this country and do something to keep this resource here not somewhere else.*

- An affordable electrical rate will allow Monsanto to maintain a leading role in the economy of Southeast Idaho.
  - Employ 770 people, 375 of whom work directly for Monsanto and 395 of whom work for contractors. 94% of these people live in four southeast Idaho counties.
  - \$70 million annually in payroll and benefits adding to Caribou County being the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest in wages paid in Idaho.
  - Among the top employers in comprehensive benefits, vacations, holidays, incentive payouts, pension plan and 401k matched savings plans.
  - Offer high paying jobs that are roughly three times higher than the local average.
  - Serving as the largest contributor of an industry that supplies 52% of the local school tax base
- Through the use of an economic multiplier to consider the indirect economic effects this has on Idaho's economy, Monsanto's phosphorus business produces, at a minimum, a \$230 million economic impact in the state.
- Our schools and public services that are provided could not be maintained without the jobs and tax base provided by Monsanto and other manufacturing industries.

Rocky Mountain Power's call for a double digit increase, however, is at such a dramatic level that it threatens the viability of all manufacturers, not only Monsanto. If approved, it will have a rippling effect throughout Southeast Idaho that we may never be able to recover from. In this most severe economic downturn since the Great Depression, we have all had to make do with less. Rocky Mountain Power can, and should, get by with a substantially reduced rate proposal.

Thank you for the chance to comment.

Sincerely,

*Keven Nield*

December 16, 2010

Mr. Jim Kempton, President  
ID Public Utilities Commission  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

RECEIVED  
2010 DEC 20 AM 8:50  
IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

RE: Case Number PAC-E-10-07

Dear Commissioner Kempton:

My name is Randy Vranes, I have been a resident of Southeast Idaho for over 25 yrs. I am a Rocky Mtn. Power rate payer in addition to having been employed by Monsanto since moving here in 1985. I am writing this letter to express to you my concern and opposition to Rocky Mountain Power's proposed rate increase. As you are well aware we live in difficult economic times that have both businesses and individuals tightening their belts, this hardly seems the appropriate time to request an increase in power rates. I know at Monsanto we have been faced with fierce competition from a number of fronts including production of competing products sourced and subsidized from government of main land China. As a result of this fact, the profit margin for glyphosate, produced indirectly from our plant, has been eroded to only a fraction of what it was just 2+ years ago.

I am a mining professional and over the past 5 years have had the direct responsibility of working to obtain the environmental approvals necessary to develop our next phosphate mining area. Over this period I have learned first hand how the increased environmental requirements and their associated costs have risen dramatically. In fact these permitting costs alone have staged more than a 5 fold increase over the last 5 yr period. In addition, the environmental enhancements that will be required for this project, once these approvals are obtained, are projected to increase future mining costs by more than 50 million dollars over the status quo. The rate of climbing costs and operating challenges are increasing faster by far than at any period in my 29+ years of working in the Mining/Manufacturing industries. For this reason I am particular worried that this proposed increase will put a serious, if not fatal, gash in the body of an already bleeding patient.

As an individual Rocky Mtn. power rate payer I am also very concerned that these increases are being sought in order to finance infrastructure and corporate profits that have very little if any direct benefits to Idaho residents. If this is true it seems very unfair to ask Idaho residents to foot the bill for increased profits and power company infrastructure that provides benefits to California or other states. Certainly this infrastructure should be paid for by those who receive the benefits not simply raise the base rates for all customers.

I thank you for the opportunity to comment, it is my sincere hope that the commission will significantly negate or reduce the Rocky Mtn. Power rate request in order to help all individuals and businesses in SE Idaho survive during extremely challenging times.

Sincerely,



**Randy Vranes**

**52 Caribou Rd Soda Springs, ID 83276**



December 16<sup>th</sup> 2010

Mr. Jim Kempton, President  
ID Public Utilities Commission  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

RECEIVED  
2010 DEC 20 AM 8:49  
IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Dear Commissioner Kempton:

RE: Case Number PAC-E-10-07

My name is Scott Elsmore, Farm/rancher /diesel mechanic for 30ty years and a Monsanto employee for the past 12 years I am writing/testifying before you today to express my opposition to Rocky Mountain Power's proposed rate increase.

I am greatly concerned of the potential impacts such a rate increase could have on not only my employer's ability to continue operations in the area, but also the impacts to other rate payers and the region's economy as a whole. From my farming experience I can appreciate the importance of keeping costs low and it is because of these sorts of challenges that I had to seek employment elsewhere. Monsanto has made it possible for me to stay in this area (Grace Idaho) and raise my family and now I see that it is threatened by foreign competition and cost increases. I understand that costs do go up but this increase seems extreme and does threaten my job as well as many others.

In the case of Monsanto, the company has been an integral part of SE Idaho for nearly sixty years.

- An affordable electrical rate will allow Monsanto to maintain a leading role in the economy of Southeast Idaho.
  - Employ 770 people, 375 of whom work directly for Monsanto and 395 of whom work for contractors.  
94% of these people live in four southeast Idaho counties.
  - \$70 million annually in payroll and benefits adding to Caribou County being the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest in wages paid in Idaho.
  - Among the top employers in comprehensive benefits, vacations, holidays, incentive payouts, pension plan and 401k matched savings plans.
  - Offer high paying jobs that are roughly three times higher than the local average.
  - Serving as the largest contributor of an industry that supplies 52% of the local school tax base
- Through the use of an economic multiplier to consider the indirect economic effects this has on Idaho's economy, Monsanto's phosphorus business produces, at a minimum, a \$230 million economic impact in the state.
- Our schools and public services that are provided could not be maintained without the jobs and tax base provided by Monsanto and other manufacturing industries.

Rocky Mountain Power's call for a double digit increase, however, is at such a dramatic level that it threatens the viability of all manufacturers, not only Monsanto. If approved, it will have a rippling effect throughout Southeast Idaho that we may never be able to recover from. In this most severe economic downturn since the Great Depression, we have all had to make do with less. Rocky Mountain Power can, and should, get by with a substantially reduced rate proposal.

Thank you for the chance to comment.

Sincerely,

Scott F. Elsmore  
631 bench view dr.  
Grace, Idaho 83241  
Phone 208 425 3648



December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Mr. Jim Kempton, President  
ID Public Utilities Commission  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

RECEIVED  
2010 DEC 20 AM 8:48  
IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Commissioner Kempton

RE: Case Number PAC-E-10-07

I am writing to you today to express my opposition to Rocky Mountain Power's proposed rate increase.

I am greatly concerned of the impacts the proposed rate increase will have both immediately and in the future for my family and for my employer. I am also concerned for the region as a whole due to the size and scope of the planned increase at all levels, for the impact it will have on existing business and the ability of the region to attract new business.

Reviewing the size of the raises that we have received (and in some cases the lack of them) from our employers coupled with the fact that for the last two years there have been no social security adjustments (due to a flat inflation rate) and the proposed federal employee rate freeze for the next two years. We do not feel that we can absorb these increases and that the increases themselves are out of line with the service being provided to Southeastern Idaho customers. This is partly due to the continued recession that the country is going through and I feel that this will be exacerbated by an increase to my employer and feel that this represents a double hit to me and my family, I do not see how our employers can absorb the increase in cost that is being requested of them and remain viable as a business let alone give the raises that would be needed to partially offset the increase that we, their employees will have in order to avert a major down shift in the standard of living throughout the region.

In Mr. Cupparo's testimony on page five lines 5 through 11 he states that the Gateway Transmission Expansion "will reduce operation cost to customers". After reading his testimony among others I suspect he is referring to customers both South and West of Idaho and that the main benefits of the gateway expansion is the ability to transport energy across Idaho from Wyoming to provide the high cost "green" energy from wind generation that their customers on the west coast have requested along with the ability to move low cost hydroelectric power from its generating sources within Idaho to high cost markets on the coast. In the last few years FMC in Pocatello closed down and while they are not a Rocky Mountain Power customer they did consume power produced in the "shared" grid which encompasses the low cost hydro electric power that attracted these large customers in the past and was a large part of the reason for there locating in Idaho to start with. A large plant like the FMC plant or the Monsanto plant in Soda Springs is said to use the energy equal to a large metropolitan city like Memphis. I have not seen expansion in the region that would

lead me to believe that the power formerly used by FMC is being consumed locally this leads me to believe that this portion of the power is being exported via the grid and that we are being asked to subsidize the energy requirements of the states that Rocky Mountain power services to the South and West of Idaho by paying for the transmission lines needed to transport the power to them not for transmission lines to bring power into Idaho.

For the reasons noted above I do not feel that we in Southeastern Idaho should be asked to pay for any of the Gateway Transmission project until it can be shown that the line is used to provide power into Idaho and then only as a prorated amount based on the value provided to both the utility and to the customers. I also question why we should be asked to pay for high cost variable "wind" generation when Rocky Mountain Power dismantled low cost hydro electric power below Grace a few years ago rather than reinvesting and maintaining the units that were there. The primary problem I see with wind generation is that when the wind does not blow you must have in place either a duplicate unit in an area that the wind is blowing or the capacity to bring generating capacity on line from either hydro, gas, coal or nuclear sources in effect doubling the cost needed for each wind mill turbine. This is a front loaded cost and has no adjustment for future maintenance of the turbine itself. Since Idaho has no preference in law or policy for the use of wind generated power and that Idaho's overall energy use appears to have declined over the last few years (drastically if you include the reduction to Idaho Powers interruptible supply to FMC). I do not agree that wind generation is a "low cost service with manageable and reasonable risk to customers" (as stated in Mr. Tallman's testimony on page three lines 4 and 5).

Rocky Mountain Power is seeking a return on equity of 10.6% this is substantially higher than any long term investment can currently show with most being down around 2%. If you should find that we should be charged for these services the rate they are seeking is out of line with the current economy.

Thank you for the chance to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Muelly Jensen". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".



December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Mr. Jim Kempton, President  
ID Public Utilities Commission  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

RECEIVED  
2010 DEC 20 AM 8:47  
IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Commissioner Kempton

RE: Case Number PAC-E-10-07

I am writing to you today to express my opposition to Rocky Mountain Power's proposed rate increase.

I am greatly concerned of the impacts the proposed rate increase will have both immediately and in the future for my family and for my employer. I am also concerned for the region as a whole due to the size and scope of the planned increase at all levels, for the impact it will have on existing business and the ability of the region to attract new business.

Reviewing the size of the raises that we have received (and in some cases the lack of them) from our employers coupled with the fact that for the last two years there have been no social security adjustments (due to a flat inflation rate) and the proposed federal employee rate freeze for the next two years. We do not feel that we can absorb these increases and that the increases themselves are out of line with the service being provided to Southeastern Idaho customers. This is partly due to the continued recession that the country is going through and I feel that this will be exacerbated by an increase to my employer and feel that this represents a double hit to me and my family, I do not see how our employers can absorb the increase in cost that is being requested of them and remain viable as a business let alone give the raises that would be needed to partially offset the increase that we, their employees will have in order to avert a major down shift in the standard of living throughout the region.

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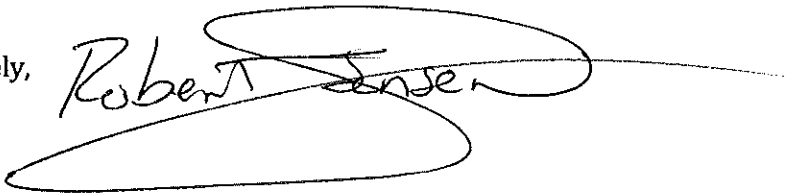
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Thank you for the chance to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Robert Jensen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end of the last name. It is written over a horizontal line.

**Idaho Public Utilities**  
**PO Box 83720**  
**Boise, ID 83720-0074**  
[www.puc.idaho.gov](http://www.puc.idaho.gov) ... click comments & questions

RECEIVED  
2010 DEC 20 AM 8:46  
IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

**December 15, 2010**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
**Robinson Building, Preston, Idaho**

If you want your opinion noted in the record, please use the space below to write your comments. Add extra sheets as needed. You may either hand this sheet to a staff member at the meeting or mail it to the above address.

**Rocky Mountain Proposed Rate Increases are:**

Standard Residential Service	8.0%
Time of Use Residential	15.6%
Small General Service	10.8%
Medium and Large General Service	14.6%
Irrigation	9.6%
Large Industrial	15.9% to 19.6%

*Rocky Mountain should start considering their present customers instead of charging more to get new customers. We have supported them for years and have had enough raises. They need to learn to conserve just like we do. It's time for a discount!*

*Farmers cannot handle another raise and may have to look at the option of dry farming. Does that seem right?*

*Rocky Mountain - Please help us! Please don't take this high raise!*

*Jane Aston  
Box 24  
Weston, Id. 83286*

December 16, 2010

Mr. Jim Kempton, President  
ID Public Utilities Commission  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

RECEIVED  
2010 DEC 20 AM 8:45  
IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Dear Commissioner Kempton:

RE: Case Number PAC-E-10-07

My name is Jocelyn Nield. I am writing to you today to express my opposition to Rocky Mountain Power's proposed rate increase.

I am greatly concerned of the potential impacts such a rate increase could have on not only my husband's employer's ability to continue operations in the area, but also the impacts to other rate payers and the region's economy as a whole.

In the case of Monsanto, the company has been an integral part of SE Idaho for nearly sixty years.

- An affordable electrical rate will allow Monsanto to maintain a leading role in the economy of Southeast Idaho.
  - Employ 770 people, 375 of whom work directly for Monsanto and 395 of whom work for contractors. 94% of these people live in four southeast Idaho counties.
  - \$70 million annually in payroll and benefits adding to Caribou County being the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest in wages paid in Idaho.
  - Among the top employers in comprehensive benefits, vacations, holidays, incentive payouts, pension plan and 401k matched savings plans.
  - Offer high paying jobs that are roughly three times higher than the local average.
  - Serving as the largest contributor of an industry that supplies 52% of the local school tax base
- Through the use of an economic multiplier to consider the indirect economic effects this has on Idaho's economy, Monsanto's phosphorus business produces, at a minimum, a \$230 million economic impact in the state.
- Our schools and public services that are provided could not be maintained without the jobs and tax base provided by Monsanto and other manufacturing industries.

Rocky Mountain Power's call for a double digit increase, however, is at such a dramatic level that it threatens the viability of all manufacturers, not only Monsanto. If approved, it will have a rippling effect throughout Southeast Idaho that we may never be able to recover from. In this most severe economic downturn since the Great Depression, we have all had to make do with less. Rocky Mountain Power can, and should, get by with a substantially reduced rate proposal.

Thank you for the chance to comment.

Sincerely,

*Jocelyn Nield*



Mr. Jim Kempton, President  
ID Public Utilities Commission  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

RECEIVED  
2010 DEC 17 AM 8:17  
IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Commissioner Kempton

RE: Case Number PAC-E-10-07

I am writing to you today to express my opposition to Rocky Mountain Power's proposed rate increase.

I am greatly concerned of the impacts the proposed rate increase will have both immediately and in the future for my family and for my employer. I am also concerned for the region as a whole due to the size and scope of the planned increase at all levels, for the impact it will have on existing business and the ability of the region to attract new business.

Reviewing the size of the raises that we have received (and in some cases the lack of them) from our employers coupled with the fact that for the last two years there have been no social security adjustments (due to a flat inflation rate) and the proposed federal employee rate freeze for the next two years. We do not feel that we can absorb these increases and that the increases themselves are out of line with the service being provided to Southeastern Idaho customers. This is partly due to the continued recession that the country is going through and I feel that this will be exacerbated by an increase to my employer and feel that this represents a double hit to me and my family, I do not see how our employers can absorb the increase in cost that is being requested of them and remain viable as a business let alone give the raises that would be needed to partially offset the increase that we, their employees will have in order to avert a major down shift in the standard of living throughout the region.

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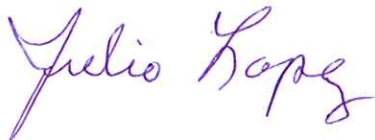
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Thank you for the chance to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Julio Lopez". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.



December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Mr. Jim Kempton, President  
ID Public Utilities Commission  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

RECEIVED

2010 DEC 17 AM 8:18

IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Commissioner Kempton

RE: Case Number PAC-E-10-07

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Thank you for the chance to comment.

Sincerely,

*Lorraine Bruce*

Mr. Jim Kempton, President  
ID Public Utilities Commission  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

RE: Case Number PAC-E-10-07

Commissioner Kempton

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Thank you for the chance to comment.

Sincerely,

*Carolina Lopez*



Mr. Jim Kempton, President

ID Public Utilities Commission

P.O. Box 83720

Boise, ID 83720-0074

RECEIVED

2010 DEC 17 AM 8:18

IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Commissioner Kempton

RE: Case Number PAC-E-10-07

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Thank you for the chance to comment.

Sincerely, ROBERT V. HARDY  
*Robert V Hardy*  
403 S. 2ND EAST  
PO BOX 351  
GRACE, IDAHO 83241

Susan Hardy  
*Susan Hardy*  
403 S. 2nd East  
PO Box 351  
Grace Id 83241



Mr. Jim Kempton, President  
ID Public Utilities Commission  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

RECEIVED  
2010 DEC 22 AM 8:23  
IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Commissioner Kempton

RE: Case Number PAC-E-10-07

I am writing to you today to express my opposition to Rocky Mountain Power's proposed rate increase.

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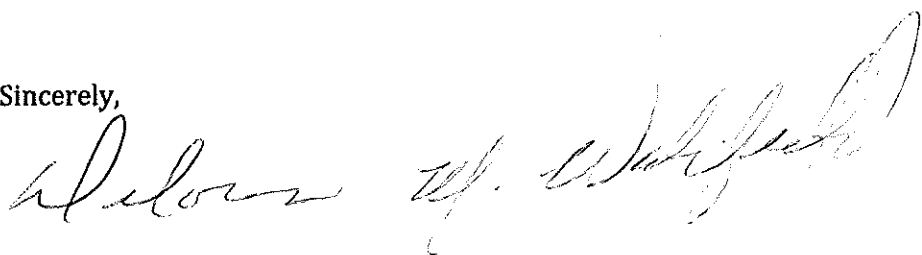
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Thank you for the chance to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Delores M. White". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the word "Sincerely,".

Mr. Jim Kempton, President

ID Public Utilities Commission

P.O. Box 83720

Boise, ID 83720-0074

Commissioner Kempton

RECEIVED

2010 DEC 17 AM 8:15

IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

RE: Case Number PAC-E-10-07

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For the reasons noted above I do not feel that we in Southeastern Idaho should be asked to pay for any of the Gateway Transmission project until it can be shown that the line is used to provide power into Idaho and then only as a prorated amount based on the value provided to both the utility and to the customers. I also question why we should be asked to pay for high cost variable "wind" generation when Rocky Mountain Power dismantled low cost hydro electric power below Grace a few years ago rather than reinvesting and maintaining the units that were there. The primary problem I see with wind generation is that when the wind does not blow you must have in place either a duplicate unit in an area that the wind is blowing or the capacity to bring generating capacity on line from either hydro, gas, coal or nuclear sources in effect doubling the cost needed for each wind mill turbine. This is a front loaded cost and has no adjustment for future maintenance of the turbine itself. Since Idaho has no preference in law or policy for the use of wind generated power and that Idaho's overall energy use appears to have declined over the last few years (drastically if you include the reduction to Idaho Powers interruptible supply to FMC). I do not agree that wind generation is a "low cost service with manageable and reasonable risk to customers" (as stated in Mr. Tallman's testimony on page three lines 4 and 5).

Rocky Mountain Power is seeking a return on equity of 10.6% this is substantially higher than any long term investment can currently show with most being down around 2%. If you should find that we should be charged for these services the rate they are seeking is out of line with the current economy.

Thank you for the chance to comment.

Sincerely,

*Paul L. Lewis*  
To whom it may concern

I've worked for Monsanto for just about 32 years  
so far and the possibility of my job due to what  
I feel is unfair rate increases I don't understand. How a few can  
have the ability to ask for such a thing knowing how they are going to cause  
so much hardship on so many people in all walks of life. From plants  
mines, farmers, stores, restaurants and so on. We as a people come  
to the point where the greed of making money means more to us than  
Regardless of how many lives we destroy? I hope you will take  
Courage to do what is right and think of the people & communities of  
Idaho. Thank you for this chance to express myself.

*[Signature]*



December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010

RECEIVED  
2010 DEC 20 AM 8:49  
IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Mr. Jim Kempton, President  
ID Public Utilities Commission  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

Commissioner Kempton

RE: Case Number PAC-E-10-07

I am writing to you today to express my opposition to Rocky Mountain Power's proposed rate increase.

I am greatly concerned of the impacts the proposed rate increase will have both immediately and in the future for my family and for my employer. I am also concerned for the region as a whole due to the size and scope of the planned increase at all levels, for the impact it will have on existing business and the ability of the region to attract new business.

Reviewing the size of the raises that we have received (and in some cases the lack of them) from our employers coupled with the fact that for the last two years there have been no social security adjustments (due to a flat inflation rate) and the proposed federal employee rate freeze for the next two years. We do not feel that we can absorb these increases and that the increases themselves are out of line with the service being provided to Southeastern Idaho customers. This is partly due to the continued recession that the country is going through and I feel that this will be exacerbated by an increase to my employer and feel that this represents a double hit to me and my family, I do not see how our employers can absorb the increase in cost that is being requested of them and remain viable as a business let alone give the raises that would be needed to partially offset the increase that we, their employees will have in order to avert a major down shift in the standard of living throughout the region.

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For the reasons noted above I do not feel that we in Southeastern Idaho should be asked to pay for any of the Gateway Transmission project until it can be shown that the line is used to provide power into Idaho and then only as a prorated amount based on the value provided to both the utility and to the customers. I also question why we should be asked to pay for high cost variable "wind" generation when Rocky Mountain Power dismantled low cost hydro electric power below Grace a few years ago rather than reinvesting and maintaining the units that were there. The primary problem I see with wind generation is that when the wind does not blow you must have in place either a duplicate unit in an area that the wind is blowing or the capacity to bring generating capacity on line from either hydro, gas, coal or nuclear sources in effect doubling the cost needed for each wind mill turbine. This is a front loaded cost and has no adjustment for future maintenance of the turbine itself. Since Idaho has no preference in law or policy for the use of wind generated power and that Idaho's overall energy use appears to have declined over the last few years (drastically if you include the reduction to Idaho Powers interruptible supply to FMC). I do not agree that wind generation is a "low cost service with manageable and reasonable risk to customers" (as stated in Mr. Tallman's testimony on page three lines 4 and 5).

Rocky Mountain Power is seeking a return on equity of 10.6% this is substantially higher than any long term investment can currently show with most being down around 2%. If you should find that we should be charged for these services the rate they are seeking is out of line with the current economy.

Thank you for the chance to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John D. Long". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping line extending from the end of the name.



December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Mr. Jim Kempton, President  
ID Public Utilities Commission  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

RECEIVED  
2010 DEC 20 AM 8:51  
IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Commissioner Kempton

RE: Case Number PAC-E-10-07

I am writing to you today to express my opposition to Rocky Mountain Power's proposed rate increase.

I am greatly concerned of the impacts the proposed rate increase will have both immediately and in the future for my family and for my employer. I am also concerned for the region as a whole due to the size and scope of the planned increase at all levels, for the impact it will have on existing business and the ability of the region to attract new business.

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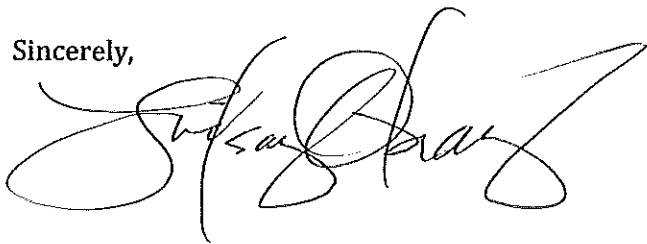
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Thank you for the chance to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve B. Davis". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial "S" and a long, horizontal stroke extending to the right.

December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010

RECEIVED  
2010 DEC 20 AM 8:52  
IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Mr. Jim Kempton, President  
ID Public Utilities Commission  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

Commissioner Kempton

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Thank you for the chance to comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fred Shaw", with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.



December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010

Mr. Jim Kempton, President  
ID Public Utilities Commission  
P.O. Box 83720  
Boise, ID 83720-0074

RECEIVED  
2010 DEC 20 AM 8:31  
IDAHO PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Commissioner Kempton

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Thank you for the chance to comment.

Sincerely,

*Diane Lloyd*  
*Grace, Idaho 83241*